

Applicants submit that the accurate Examiner proposed Amendment to claim 17, as discussed between the Examiner and Applicants attorney Jeffrey Wax on May 25, 2006, (which is acceptable to Applicants) appears below:

17. A method comprising:

defining a bearing gap between a rotatable component and a stationary component;

affixing a magnet to the rotatable component; and

affixing a stator to the stationary component, for generating an electromagnetic force that interacts with the magnet for driving the rotatable component ; ~~and~~


~~affixing a base plate to the stationary component~~ , the stationary component including a base plate, wherein the base plate defines a minimal axial gap with the magnet, the base plate comprising a first material positioned adjacent to the magnet and a second material having a predefined stiffness, wherein the second material is positioned at a greater radial distance from the magnet than the radial distance between the stator and the magnet, wherein the stator is positioned radially outside of the magnet, and wherein the second material is positioned at least one of radially outside of the stator and axially adjacent to the stator.

## CONCLUSION

Applicants do not submit an Amendment to the claims herewith. Only a clarification from the Examiner as to the Examiners amendment to claim 17 is solicited. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would be useful in moving the case forward, please contact the undersigned at Tel. (310) 312-1500.

Respectfully submitted,  
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*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 26, 2006.*

  
Virginia Wilson

6.26.2006  
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